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CIA

Country: Brazil

DATE 2 Jul 54

Subject: Dr Raoul Tutrut, Natal State Mineral Prospector/
Possible Bauxite Deposits in Rio Grande do Norte

8 June 54

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Place Acquired:

25X1A

Date Acquired :

Date of Info : May 54

SF-9272

A # 45247

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SOURCE: US mining engineer.

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1.

[REDACTED] is employed within the Department of Agriculture of Rio Grande do Norte as a practical [REDACTED]. He is a graduate of the Institute Schneider in Paris, which was founded by the French industrialist Schneider Caruso. He has worked on mineral prospecting in many parts of French Africa, Madagascar, French Guiana and Surinam. He has never worked on bauxite specifically but has observed bauxite in place in Surinam.

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2.

[REDACTED] is a little slow in getting around on foot due to a war injury, but he has covered most of the state by motorcycle. All of the reports of bauxite in Rio Grande do Norte have originated with him. These reports are based on visual recognition only and are not backed up by any analyses. The state does not have a chemical laboratory, although he personally has a mineral testing kit. Tutrut rates the supposed bauxite occurrences in the following order of importance.

- a. Iteretama
- b. Açu
- c. Jacurutu
- d. Nisea Floresta

3.

I drove around the country a little and examined a few laterites exposed in highway cuts and borrow pits. The GSA map of South America maps the coastal fringe in this area as "undifferentiated tertiary." What I saw was an alteration of almost pure quartz sands. Clays and laterites at the surface are just under a shallow soil cover. In many places dune sand from the beaches has blown in to add some extra quartz sand to the laterite. These laterites, which are hard enough to be used for road surfacing, are not of the red

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variety but are more cream or tan in color. I did not observe them to be pisolitic in any exposure. Only somewhat extensive sampling could disclose their true nature. The topography is favorable - flattopped hills 50-100 feet above sea level, dissected by widely spaced, small streams that cut almost to sea level. A great deal of this area is cultivated with corn, manioc, etc. There are a few carnauba wax pods. The rainfall is sufficient for crops, but there is no dense jungle.

-end-

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<u>Area</u>	TYPE	ACT-DATE	INFO-TFR	BATE	AREA
Brazil, Rio Grande do Norte	—	54	—	54	
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